

Message Text

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73

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NASA-04 CU-04 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 RSR-01 RSC-01 /058 W

----- 053254

R 272201 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 948

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1021

DEPT PASS NASA AND JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, CA

SUBJECT: VISIT TO OTTWAA - ASTRONAUT SCHMITT

1. ASTRONAUT SCHMITT VISITED OTTAWA, APR 26, HE DELIVERED LUNCHEON ADDRESS TO CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF SURVEYING, ADDRESSED PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES, AND HELD PRESS AND TV INTERVIEWS. GENERAL RECEPTION AT ALL EVENTS WAS GOOD WITH MAXIMUM ANTICIPATED CROWDS AT LUNCHEON AND EM& R. LUNCHEON ADDRESS ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 700 PEOPLE IN TWO DINING ROOMS, THE SECOND OF WHICH WAS PROVIDED HEAD TABLE COVERAGE BY CLOSED CIRCUIT TV. STANDING ROOM ONLY AT EM& R ADITUUIUM.

2. PRESS CONFERENCE MARRED SOMEWHAT BY "LOADED" QUESTIONS FROM TWO ATTENDEES WHOSE PERSISTENCE INTERFERED WITH OTHER MORE SERIOUS REPORTERS GETTING IN THEIR FAIR SHARE OF QUESTIONS. DESPITE THIS, SCHMITT "FIELDDED" ALL QUESTIONS EXCELLENTY. BY CONTRAST, CBC TV INTERVIEW, WHICH WILL BE MADE INTO 30- MINUTE SPECIAL INTERSPERSING INTERVIEW WITH APOLLO 17 FILM FOOTAGE, CONSIDERED EXCELLENT BY ALL PRESENT.

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3. LIVE AUDIENCES IN OTTAWA WERE PREDOMINATLY COMPOSED

OF SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE. EMBASSY WOULD
LIKE TO NOTE THAT SCHMITT'S OWN PROFESSIONALISM
AND EVIDENT COMPETENCE IN HIS OWN RIGHT AS A SCIENTIST
ESTABLISHED AN IMMEDIATE RAPPORT WITH THE AUDIENCE
HE ADDRESSED. HOWEVER TRYING THE DEMANDS MAY HAVE
BEEN ON HIM, HE CAN BE ASSURED THAT HE HAS
MADE IN HIS ONE DAY VISIT TO OTTAWA A SIGNIFICANT
CONTRIBUTION TO MAINTAINING THE KIND OF RELATIONS
WHICH ARE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND NECESSARY BETWEEN
AMERICAN AND CANADIAN SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES. BOTH
THE EMBASSY AND HIS CANADIAN HOSTS APPRECIATE THIS.
SCHMIDT

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED JOHNSON SPACE CENTER.

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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